MATURE CONTENT
Basilisk
2
The Kouga Ninja Scrolls
Original story by FŪTARO YAMADA
Manga by MASAKI SEGAWA

Basilisk

ORIGINAL STORY BY FŪTARO YAMADA

BASED ON THE KODANSHA NOVEL *THE KOUGA NINJA SCROLLS*

MANGA BY MASAKI SEGAWA

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY DAVID URY
LETTERED BY FOLTZ DESIGN

2

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Basilisk

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2

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THE KOUGA NINJA SCROLLS

ORIGINAL STORY BY
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BASED ON THE
KODANSHA NOVEL
THE KOUGA NINJA SCROLLS

THE TEN COMBATANTS OF THE IGA CLAN

OGEN
OBORO
YASHAMARU
ROUSAI AZUKI
JINGOROU AMAYO
KOSHIROU CHIKUMA
NENKI MINO
HOTARUBI
TENZENYAKUSHIJI
AKEGINU

THE TEN COMBATANT
OF THE KOUGA CLAN

DANJOU KOUGA
GENNOSUKE KOUGA
JUUBEI JIMUSH
SHOUGEN KAZAMACH
GYOUBU KASUM
JOUSUKE UDON
SAEMON KISARAG
HYOUMA MUROGA
KAGEROU
OKO

THE STORY SO FAR

UNDER THE ORDER OF RULER IEYASU TOKUGAWA, THE THIRD TOKUGAWA SHOGUN SHALL BE DECIDED BY A BATTLE OF 10 VS 10 BETWEEN THE KOUGA AND THE IGA NINJA. THE BLOODBATH BETWEEN THESE TWO NINJA CLANS BEGINS WHEN THE TWO CLAN LEADERS, OGEN OF THE IGA AND DANJOU OF THE KOUGA CLAN TAKE EACH OTHER'S LIVES.

BOTH LEADERS DIE BEFORE THEY CAN TELL THEIR FELLOW CLAN MEMBERS ABOUT IEYASU'S ORDER. HOWEVER, THE IGA CLAN MANAGES TO GET HOLD OF THE BATTLE SCROLL BEFORE THE KOUGA CLAN KNOWS OF ITS EXISTENCE. SOON, THE IGA CLAN VANQUISHES JUUBEI JIMUSHI, SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI, AND JOUSUKE UDONO. THE ONLY NINJA WHO DON'T KNOW THAT WAR HAS BEEN DECLARED ARE OBORO OF IGA, GENNOSUKE KOUGA, AND THE KOUGA CLAN.

THE IGA CLAN HAS THE ADVANTAGE, BUT WILL THE KOUGA CLAN STRIKE BACK?

AND WHAT OF GENNOSUKE AND OBORO'S LOVE AFFAIR?

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEAD

JOUSUKE UDONO
HE HAS FLESH THAT CAN STOP A SWORD. WHILE SNEAKING AROUND OGEN'S PALACE, HE RUNS INTO IGA'S JINGOROU AMAYO. AMAYO DIVES INTO UDONO'S BODY AND KILLS HIM.

A BLOODY AND TORTUOUS HELL AWAITS THE DEAD.

SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI
HE USES HIS OWN STICKY PHLEGM TO RESTRICT HIS OPPONENT'S MOVEMENT. SHOUGEN RUNS INTO THE IGA CLAN WHILE RETURNING FROM SUNPU. HE ATTACKS THE IGA NINJA, BUT IS KILLED BY HOTARUBI AND NENKI MINO.

JUUBEI JIMUSHI
A NINJA WITH NO ARMS OR LEGS. HE BATTLES IGA'S TENZEN YAKUSHIJI USING THE SPEAR HIDDEN IN HIS THROAT. HE ASSUMES THAT TENZEN IS DEAD, BUT LATER DIES BY TENZEN'S SWORD.

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[5 VS 7 (PART 2)]

GENNOSUKE-SAMA HAS GONE TO IGA...I CAN'T HELP BUT FEAR FOR HIS SAFETY.

JUUBEI JIMUSHI'S READING OF THE STARS PREDICTED ILL FORTUNE...

I COULD GO TO IGA AND CHECK UP ON HIM.

GYOUBU KASUMI
[KOUGA]

HYOUMA MUROGA
[KOUGA]

GENNOSUKE-SAMA MUST BE INSANE.

...MARRYING AN IGA GIRL...

KAGEROU
[KOUGA]

SAEMON KISARAGI
[KOUGA]

.....

OH...

YOU SENT OKOI TO IGA?

I JUST SENT MY LITTLE SISTER TO IGA TO CHECK THINGS OUT.

WELL, FOR STARTERS...

OF COURSE. SHE'S PERFECT FOR THE JOB.

BESIDES, EVEN IF GENNOSUKE-SAMA FINDS HER, SHE WON'T GET IN TOO MUCH TROUBLE.

I FIGURED THEY'D GO EASY ON A GIRL.

SHH!

SO, I GUESS FOR NOW...

WE'LL JUST WAIT FOR OKOI TO RETURN.

WHAT IS IT, HYOUMA?

SOME-THING IS...

...HEADING TOWARD...

.....

PING

ピン

...MANJIDANI.

KILL NUMBER 7

[6 VS 9]

THE NORTH? ...THE ROAD FROM THE CITY?

WELL THEN, IT MUST BE DANJOU-SAMA OR SHOUGEN RETURNING FROM SUNPU, RIGHT?

NINJA!

THEY'RE COMING FROM THE NORTH.

OKAY.

I'M GOING TO CHECK THINGS OUT.

NO! THEY'RE NOT KOUGA NINJA.

THERE ARE FIVE OF THEM. I CAN SENSE MURDEROUS INTENTION IN THEIR MOVEMENT.

I WILL.

AND TELL THEM TO STAY AWAY FROM THE ROAD UNTIL I GIVE THE SIGN.

SAEMON, GO WARN THE VILLAGE.

I HAVEN'T BEEN HERE SINCE I WAS A KID.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.

TENZEN YAKUSHIJI

[IGA]

ABOUT 170... OR 80 YEARS.

I REMEMBER THIS TREE WAS NO TALLER THAN I WAS BACK THEN.

EXCELLENT.

THEY STILL DON'T KNOW.

NENKI MINO

[IGA]

THE NORTHERN CROSSROADS

KOUGA-MANJIDANI SECT

LOOK HOW MUCH TROUBLE SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI GAVE YOU...AND HE WAS ALL BY HIMSELF.

DON'T GET COCKY JUST BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW YET.

!?

WHY DON'T WE TAKE CARE OF ALL OF THE NINJA LISTED ON THE SCROLL...RIGHT NOW.

ROUSAI AZUKI

[IGA]

WELL THEN...

SCHWIP

2

KOSHIROU CHIKUMA
[IGA]

...I SENSED SOMEONE'S PRESENCE.

WHAT IS IT, KOSHIROU?

!?

HOTARUBI
[IGA]

WHOA!!

FWISH

SHINK

HWAAAH!

SHIT!

WHA-

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, ROUSAI?

HYA!

SMACK

THUD

AHH!

FLIP

UMMPH!

HYAA!

SMASH

IT SAID, "THE WALL OF MANJIDANI HAS EARS."

THE- THE WALL SURROUNDED ME, AND SPOKE TO ME!

WHAT THE HELL? WHAT IS IT, ROUSAI?

CREAK

CREAK

SUSPICIOUS INTRUDERS HAVE ENTERED MANJIDANI!

ATTENTION!

SHIT!

THE WALL IS TALKING.

THE—

TAP

ガチャ

YOUR STORY IS TOO SUSPICIOUS!

THAT'S A LIE! WHY WOULD A MESSENGER FROM IGA BE COMING FROM THE NORTH?

WE ARE MESSENGERS SENT BY GENNOSUKE-SAMA.

WE CAME FROM IGA!

STOP! WE MEAN NO HARM!

ALL RIGHT!

FWAH

TAKE THEM DOWN!

FWAH

WHOOSH

YEAH!

SHIT!

THAT'S IT!

KILL THEM ALL!

WHOOSH

FUUUU

HYUU

WHOOSH

!?

!!

I-I'M BEING SUCKED-

TASTE THE ...

..."DEADLY, RAZOR SHARP WIND OF MY TORNADO TECHNIQUE, YOU KOUGA BASTARDS!

SPLAT

CRACK

RRRIP

"IN,"

STEP

STEP

GRIN

VS

CLOP

WAAAH!

HYAAA!

SWISH

HYAAA-AAAA!

SWISH

CRACK

SMACK

RRRIP

HYAA!

HYUUU

HYAA!

POLINCE

THWIP

SQUIRT

SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI?

IT CAN'T BE.

MUST BE ONE OF HIS *KIN!*

GRIN

HYUUU

FWAP

NICE TRY!

SPLAT

I NEVER FALL FOR THE SAME TRICK TWICE!

COME ON, YOU FOOLS! IN THE NAME OF THE KOUGA NINJA...

DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!

ATTACK! ATTACK!

THUD

SHIVER

.....

HYAAA!

WHOOSH

SUMMON FORTH YOUR BUT-TERFLIES.

HOTARUBI..

WHAT THE—

FLUTTER

WHOOSH

DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!

AFTER THEM!

STEP

WHAT A MESS.

.....

WELL, WELL...

SO THAT'S HOW YOU GREET MESSENGERS FROM IGA, IS IT?

HAVE THOSE IGA RATS GONE MAD?

EVEN THROUGH BLIND EYES, I CAN SEE THIS DISASTER.

!

THOSE BASTARDS...

WHY DON'T WE ATTACK TSUBAGAKURE?

IF YOU'RE CRAZY ENOUGH...

...TO ATTACK IGA'S TSUB-AGAKURE VALLEY...

I SEE HOW YOUR KOUGA MINDS WORK.

.....

...ON YOUR FUTURE LEADER, GENNOSUKE KOUGA!

...BE FOREWARNED THAT WE WILL TAKE OUR REVENGE...

FORGET IT...

...GYOUBU.

YOU BASTARD!

WE CAN'T!

LET'S FOLLOW THEM, HYOUMA!

.....

DON'T FORGET... THAT GENNOSUKE-SAMA...

...IS IN TSUBAGAKURE RIGHT NOW.

GENNOSUKE-SAMA...

THE BORDER BETWEEN KOUGA AND IGA TERRITORY

PLOINK

PLOINK

PLOINK

SWING

SWING

FWIT

FWOOSH

PAT

PAT

THUP

. . . . . .

OKOI
(SAEMON
KISARAGI'S
YOUNGER SISTER)

KOUGA-MANJIDANI
SECT

END OF KILL
NUMBER 7

KILL NUMBER 8

[6 VS 9 (PART 2)]

FWOOSH

WE HAVE NO CHOICE. WE HAVE TO TAKE OUT THAT BASTARD GENNOSUKE RIGHT AWAY!

.....

THE KOUGA NINJA MUST'VE SENSED OUR MOVE-MENT!

SHIT!

SWIP

!?

SCREECH

WHAT'S WRONG, TENZEN?

SOMEONE'S COMING.

HIDE!

THOSE KOUGA NINJA MUST BE CHASING US.

WHAT?

WHOOSH

WHOOSH

WHOOSH

WHOOSH

PLOINK

WHOOSH

NYUU

.....

THUP

THAT'S...

...OKOI FROM THE KOUGA CLAN.

110

PAT

110

PAT

...OKAY.

LET'S CAPTURE HER, AND TAKE HER TO TSUBAGAKURE.

SHE'S ONE OF THE TEN KOUGA NINJA.

HER NAME IS ON THE SCROLL.

12

"!

LICK

.....

RUSTLE

!?

?

...FROM MANJIDANI, AREN'T YOU?

YOU'RE OKOI

STEP

STEP

.....

.....

YOU MUST KNOW THAT THE IGA AND THE KOUGA ARE NO LONGER ENEMIES.

AS YOU CAN SEE, WE ARE FROM IGA, BUT...

THERE'S NO REASON TO BE AFRAID.

.....

I'M AWARE OF THAT.

.....

...STAYING THE NIGHT IN IGA'S TSUBAGAKURE PALACE.

THAT'S WHY GENNOSUKE KOUGA-SAMA IS...

STEP

WE BARELY MADE IT...

...OUT ALIVE.

THE VILLAGERS MISUNDERSTOOD, AND CHASED US AWAY IN AN ANGRY FIT OF RAGE.

ACTUALLY...

WE'RE JUST RETURNING FROM MANJIDANI. WE WERE BRINGING A MESSAGE FROM GENNOSUKE-SAMA.

...GENNOSUKE-SAMA AND OBORO-SAMA AFTER WHAT HAPPENED.

ANYWAY, OKOI-DONO, WE CAN'T VERY WELL FACE...

SWIP

HAH!

GRIN

THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR UNDERES-TIMATING THE KOUGA NINJA.

PERHAPS, YOU WOULDN'T MIND ACCOMPANYING US TO TSUBAGAKURE?

.....

GRIP

IS GENNOSUKE-SAMA SAFE?

.....

GRIP

WHAT A FOOLISH QUESTION.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "IS HE SAFE?"

...THERE'S NO WAY WE COULD MATCH HIS SKILL.

THINK ABOUT IT... EVEN IF WE WANTED TO KILL GENNOSUKE-SAMA...

GIGGLE

THAT'S...

...FOR SURE.

WELL THEN...

WILL YOU COME WITH US TO IGA?

.....

GLANCE

ちら

.....

GRIP

...THE REST OF THE MANJIDANI CLAN!

PLOINK

WHA-?

I'LL GO ASK...

FWOOSH

THWING

PLOINK

PLOINK

I'LL HANDLE HER!

OKAY!

FWOOON

WHOOSH

HYAA!

PLOINK

!?

STOP!

AH!

!

UWAAH!

THWAT

THWAT

THWAT

FWOOSH

GOT HIM!

GU—

STICK

PLOP

UNNPH...

RATTLE

YOU ALMOST HAD ME, OKOI.

HEH, ALMOST.

SWISH

PLOINK

HYUU

THWIT

THWIT

THWIT

CRACK

CRACK

THUD

THUD

GRIN

STEP

STEP

I'VE GOT SOME QUES-TIONS...

...FOR HER.

DON'T KILL HER...

...NENKI.

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

ONCE THAT'S TAKEN CARE OF, THEN...

WE CAN USE HER TO LURE GENNOSUKE.

WHAT NOW?

HMMPH.

DRIP

DRIP

WE CAN CROSS HER NAME OFF THE LIST.

DANJOU KOUGA'S PALACE

TSSSS

SMACK

WE MUST ATTACK IGA!

WE CAN'T...

...GYOUBU.

.....

THAT'S RIDICULOUS!

YOU WANT TO LET THEM GET AWAY WITH THIS, HYOUMA?

DON'T FORGET...

GENNOSUKE-SAMA IS IN TSUBAGAKURE.

EVEN IF WE DO WANT TO ATTACK, THE VILLAGERS WON'T STAND FOR IT.

WE LET THEM GET AWAY.

IF WE TRY TO ATTACK TSUBAGAKURE NOW...

THEY'LL BE READY FOR US.

BESIDES...

HMMPH...

ARE YOU SAYING WE SHOULD JUST FORGET ABOUT GENNOSUKE-SAMA, HYOUMA?

TO HELL WITH THAT!

DON'T BE RIDICULOUS.

I HAVE THE UTMOST FAITH IN GENNOSUKE-SAMA.

JOUSUKE IS WITH HIM, TOO.

BESIDES...

HE WON'T FALL PREY TO THE IGA...

...THAT EASILY.

YES...

B-BUT...

DON'T WORRY! WE'LL GO TO TSUBAGAKURE, AND MAKE SURE THAT HE'S SAFE.

I WOULD NEVER LET ANY HARM COME TO GENNOSUKE-SAMA.

THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH, GYOUBU.

...THE IGA AND THE KOUGA WERE ABOUT TO MAKE PEACE...

...JUST WHEN...

WHY WOULD THOSE IGA BAS-TARDS ATTACK MANJI-DANI...

BUT FIRST...

THERE'S SOMETHING WE NEED TO CHECK ON.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, SAEMON.

PRECISELY.

EVEN IN OUR CLAN, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD ATTACK IGA IN A SECOND...

...IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE ***HATTORI TRUCE.***

THERE MIGHT BE A FACTION...

...THAT IS AGAINST MAKING PEACE.

...HAS BEEN DISSOLVED?

WHAT IF THE HATTORI TRUCE... THAT'S MY POINT.

IM- IMPOSSIBLE!

WHAT?

WHA-

"DON'T GET COCKY JUST BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW YET."

YES...HE SAID SOME-THING LIKE...

...THAT YOU HEARD TENZEN YAKUSHIJI SAY SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS WHEN YOU WERE HIDING IN THE WALL.

GYOUBU, YOU MENTIONED...

SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI GAVE YOU... AND HE WAS ALL BY HIMSELF.

LOOK HOW MUCH TROUBLE...

ON THE *TOKAIDO* TRAIL.

THEY CAME...

...FROM THE NORTH.

PERHAPS SHOUGEN...

...WAS RETURNING FROM SUNPU WITH SOME IMPORTANT NEWS...

THAT COULD BE THE SECRET...

...BEHIND IGA'S ATTACK.

ALL RIGHT!

WHAP

I'M HEADING OUT ON THE TOKAIDO TRAIL.

.....

I'M COMING WITH YOU...

...GYOUBU.

FWIP

ゆっ

THE TOKAIDO TRAIL

ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF SEKINOSHUKU

ｱﾒ

ｻｻｻ

ｱﾒ

ｱﾒ

ｱﾒ

ｱﾒ

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

SHIT!

YASHAMARU

ｸﾞｯﾄｯ

NOT OGEN-SAMA!

NOT DANJOU!

NOT EVEN THE SCROLL!

I CAN'T FIND ANYONE!

HOW THE HELL AM I GONNA EXPLAIN THIS?

SHIT!

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

HOTARUBI...

THOSE KOUGA BASTARDS PROBABLY ALREADY HAVE THE SCROLL.

SHOUGEN IS AT LEAST A DAY AHEAD OF ME!

I PRAY YOU'RE STILL ALIVE...

HOTARUBI...

...HEY...

...YASHA... MARU...

...HEY...

HEY...

!?

!

FWOOSH

SWISH

WHO'S THERE?

SWISH

END OF KILL NUMBER 8

IT'S YAKUSHIJI.

IT'S ME, YASHAMARU.

!

WHERE—

WHERE ARE YOU?

IS-IS THAT REALLY YOU, TENZEN-DONO?

……

ア

ア

ア

WHY ARE YOU RETURNING FROM SUNPU, YASHAMARU?

I CAN'T EXPLAIN RIGHT NOW, BUT...I CAN'T SHOW MYSELF.

AN EMERGENCY?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YASHAMARU?

IT'S AN EMERGENCY, TENZEN-DONO!

IT-

AH-

IT-
IT'S-

WA-WAIT, TENZEN-DONO!

THE REASON YOU CAN'T SHOW YOURSELF...

TSSS

MURDERED?

IS IT BECAUSE THEY MURDERED YOU?

SHOUGEN KAZAMA-CHI OF THE KOUGA CLAN?

WAS IT...

!?

SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI.

.....

YES. IT WAS NONE OTHER THAN...

.....

HE STOLE THE BATTLE SCROLL FROM ME.

DANJOU KOUGA TRICKED ME...

SPLASH

"I"

"I"

"I"

I-I'M SORRY.

THE BATTLE SCROLL?

?

IT WAS ALL MY FAULT.

WHAT IS THE BATTLE SCROLL?

YASHAMARU...

YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO WAS KILLED.

EVERY-ONE ELSE IS STILL ALIVE...

BUT LUCKILY...

...IS NO MORE!

UNDER THE ORDER OF SUNPU'S RULER IEYASU-SAMA...

...AND WITH THE PER-MISSION OF HANZO HATTORI...

I'VE GOT GOOD NEWS, TENZEN-DONO!

WHA-

WHAT?

THE TRUCE BETWEEN THE IGA AND THE KOUGA...

SHIT! I'VE BEEN TRICKED!

WAIT!

!?

HE'S OVER THERE!

!

SDWIT

SDWIT

!

SDWIT

FWID

FWID

FWID

SDWIT

17

KNOCK

SHI-

SHI-

CHINK

CHINK

CHINK

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

RUSTLE

110

SAEMON...

KISARAGI...

SA-

CHINK

TELL ME, OR I'LL TEAR YOU TO SHREDS.

TELL ME WHO YOU ARE!

YES!

HE'S ONE OF THE TEN KOUGA NINJA!

IF I CAN BRING BACK HIS HEAD, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO SAVE SOME FACE.

TANK

TANK

SKRINK

SKRINK

.....

TWING

TWING

TWING

FWACK

SLICE

SAEMON KISARAGI!

YOINK

7"

HELL AWAITS YOU!

SLICE

FWOOSH

SKRENCH

SKRENCH

CRACK

CRACK

SWIP

GASP

CRACK

CRACK

CRACK

SKRINK

CHINK

GLANCE

SHWIP

CRACK

THUD

FWOSH

SMOOD

TSSS

SCHWIP

I WAS HOPING TO QUESTION HIM BEFORE I KILLED HIM, BUT...

I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE.

THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE.

THANKS, GYOUBU.

SHOVE

THIS LITTLE BASTARD... LET US IN ON A VERY IMPORTANT SECRET.

WELL, AT LEAST HE'S DEAD NOW.

HE WOULDN'T HAVE CONFESSED TOO EASILY ANYWAY.

THE HATTORI TRUCE HAS BEEN DISSOLVED.

HE SAID THAT UNDER IEYASU'S ORDER...

WHAT IN THE HELL IS THAT BATTLE SCROLL HE SPOKE OF?

BUT...

HYOUMA'S GUESS WAS DEAD ON!

...I'D BEEN "MURDERED."

WHILE I WAS FAKING TENZEN'S VOICE, HE ASKED ME IF ...

AND ONE MORE THING...

WE'VE GOT TO GET TO TSUBA-GAKURE RIGHT AWAY!

NOW THAT WE KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON...

YES.

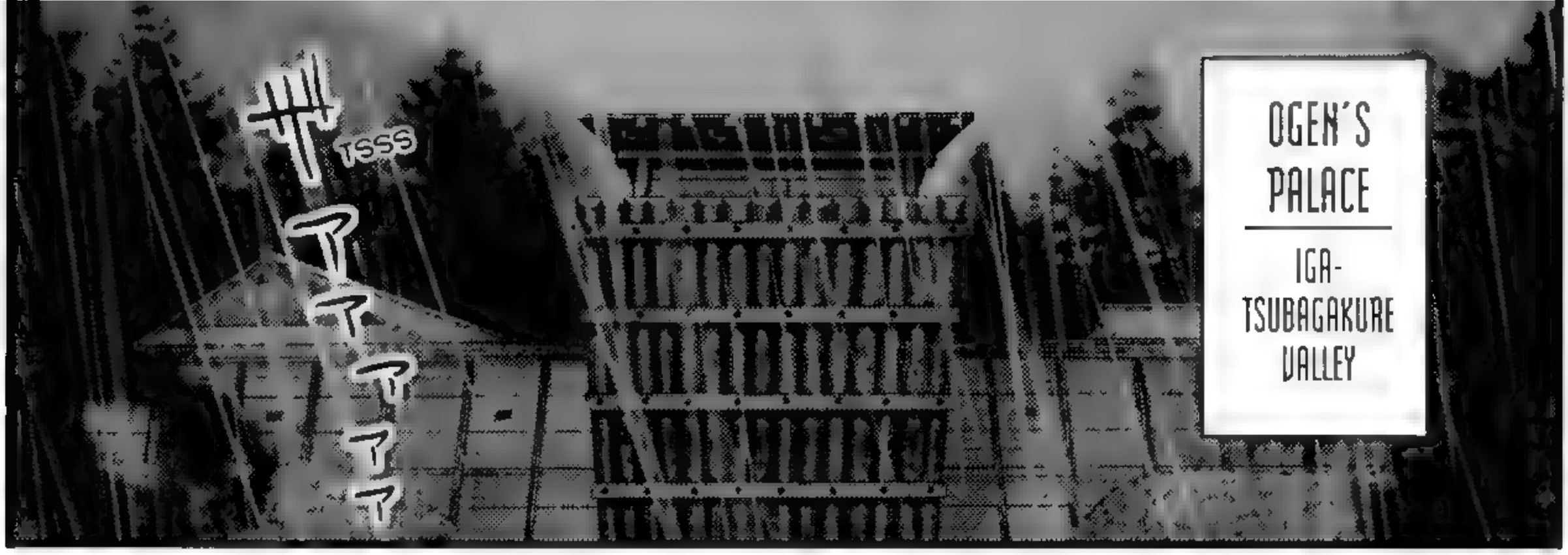
TSSS

THIS IS A DELICATE SITUATION, SAEMON!

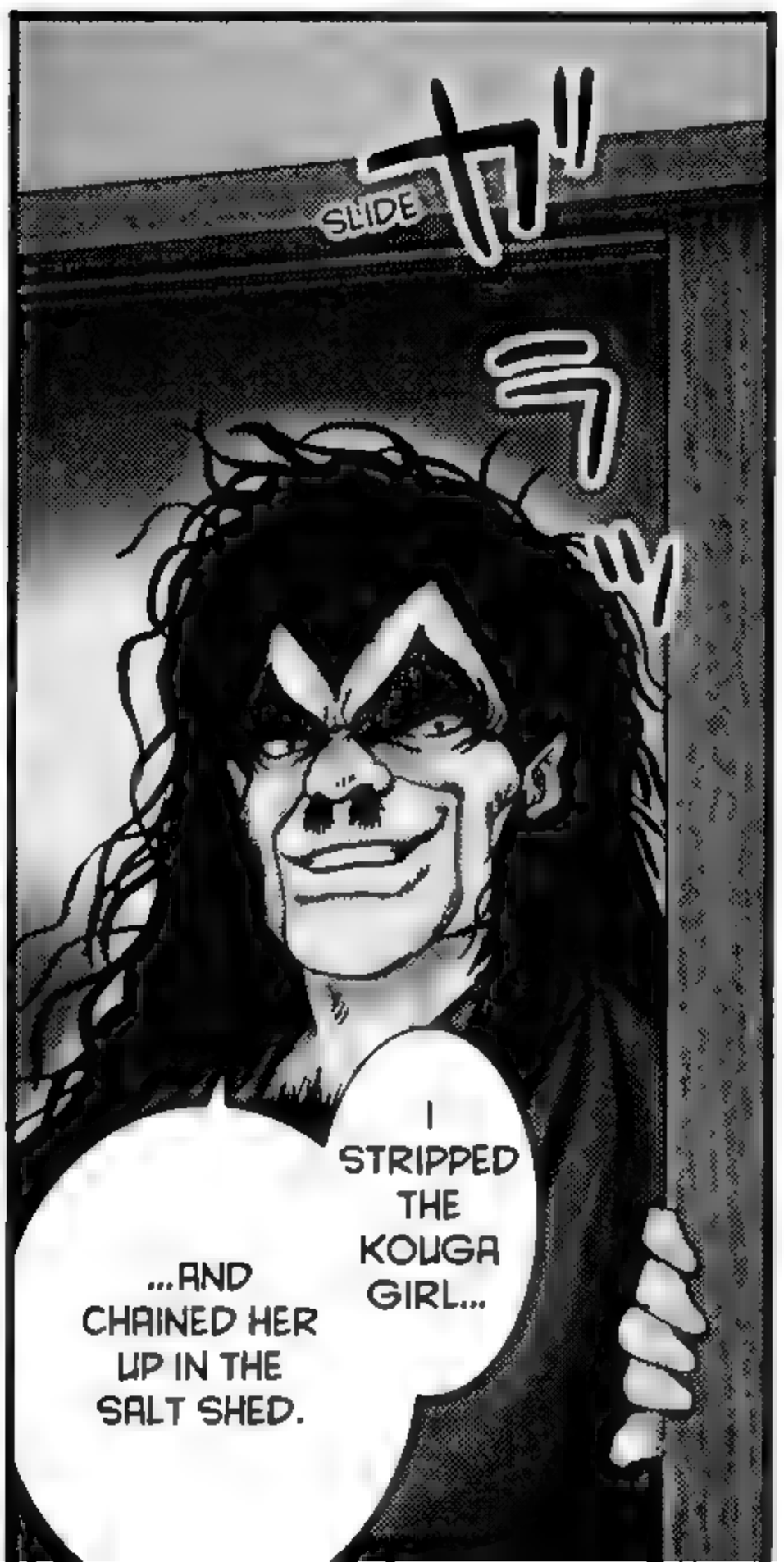
HE PROBABLY JUST WANTED TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO TENZEN.

TTTTTT

WE MUST MAKE SURE THAT GENNOSUKE-SAMA IS SAFE.


OGEN'S PALACE
IGA-TSUBAGAKURE VALLEY
TTTTTT
TSSS

GOOD WORK.


SLIDE
I STRIPPED THE KOUGA GIRL...
...AND CHAINED HER UP IN THE SALT SHED.

WELL, OBORO-SAMA IS KEEPING HIM BUSY.
WHAT ABOUT GENNOSUKE, AKEGINU?
GRIN

...HOW HE HAD BEEN PESTERING ME.

OBORO-SAMA TOLD HIM ABOUT...

WHEN HE ASKED ABOUT JOUSUKE UDONO'S WHERE-ABOUTS...

PLEASE ACCEPT MY APOLOGIES, AKEGINU-DONO.

HE PROBABLY RAN BACK TO MANJIDANI TO HIDE HIS FACE IN SHAME.

THAT GUY NEVER GIVES UP.

HEH, HEH, HEH. ONCE A MAN LOOKS INTO OBORO-SAMA'S EYES...

...HE WILL BELIEVE ANYTHING SHE SAYS.

HE EVEN APOLOGIZED TO ME.

THAT'S RIGHT...

ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME WE TELL OBORO-SAMA WHAT'S GOING ON?

TENZEN...

HEH, HOW IRONIC.

WHEN OBORO-SAMA LOOKS INTO HER LOVER'S EYES...

OBORO-SAMA IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN KILL GENNO-SUKE KOUGA.

SHE'S ACTUALLY SENDING HIM TO HIS GRAVE.

JUST LET ME HANDLE THIS.

I'M AWARE OF THAT.

HMM... THIS MUD IS PERFECT.

THWICK

"

PAT

"

PAT

"

YANK

YANK

YANK

WORKS FOR ME.

WE'LL HAVE TO HEAD TO IGA ON OUR OWN, GYOUBU.

SNAP

THERE'S NO TIME TO GO BACK TO KOUGA.

ｳｳｳｳ

.....

...WHO CAN BRING GENNOSUKE-SAMA BACK FROM TSUBAGAKURE ALIVE.

YOU AND I ARE THE ONLY ONES...

OUT OF THE ENTIRE KOUGA CLAN...

SMOOSH

ｳ"

ｳ"

ｳ"

ザ

ザザザザ

ザ

GRIN.

YASHAMARU-
DONO...

TSSS

TTTTTT

SIZZLE
SIZZLE
ヒタヒタ
CLOP
ドアノブ
SLIDE
CLICK
CLICK
HEY!
LITTLE GIRL!
ヒタヒタヒタ
CLOP

END OF KILL NUMBER 9

.....

I WANT YOU TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS TRUTHFULLY.

LISTEN, OKOL

"

DON'T EXPECT TO LEAVE HERE ALIVE.

IF YOU WON'T ANSWER MY QUESTIONS...

I WANT TO ASK YOU ABOUT THE TEN KOUGA NINJA.

FIRST, TELL ME ABOUT HYOUMA MUROGA. I'VE HEARD THAT HE IS A BLIND NINJA.

WHAT TECHNIQUE DOES HE USE?

KILL NUMBER 10

[6 VS 8]

.....

THE TEN COMBATANTS OF THE IGA CLAN

OGEN
OBORO
YASHAMARU
ROUSAI AZUKI
JINGOROU AMAYO
KOSHIROU CHIKUMA
NENKI MINO
HOTARUBI
TENZEN YAKUSHIJI
AKEGINU

THE TEN COMBATANTS OF THE KOUGA CLAN

DANJOU KOUGA
GENNOSUKE KOUGA
JUUBEI JIMUSHI
SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI
GYOUBU KASUMI
JOUSUKE UDONO
SAEMON KISARAGI
HYOUMA MUROGA
KAGEROU
OKOI

AND THEN, THERE'S SAEMON KISARAGI. WHAT'S HIS TECHNIQUE?

WHAT ABOUT HER?

AND THE GIRL CALLED KAGEROU...

I ALSO WANT TO KNOW WHAT TECHNIQUE YOU USE.

CRACK コキ

OF COURSE...

CRACK コキ

.....

SHIVER ブルブル

SWIP ヒュッ

HYAA!

FWACK

CRACK

CRACK

SHALL I START... BY TEARING OFF YOUR EAR?

OR PERHAPS... YOUR RIGHT ARM... FOLLOWED BY THE LEFT?

FWEESH

YOU WOULDN'T WANT...

...ANYTHING LIKE THAT TO HAPPEN TO YOU, NOW WOULD YOU, OKOI?

TAP

WELL THEN...

WHY DON'T YOU JUST ANSWER MY QUESTIONS?

THEN MAYBE I'LL SLICE OPEN YOUR BREASTS, HUH?

!

STICK

WHA-?

GRIN

YANK

PAT

YOU LITTLE-

THUD

MY-MY HANDS ARE STUCK!

SUCK

AAHHH!

ROLL

NOOO

SUCK

SUCK

STICK

GWAAH!!

SMACK

WHOA!

HYUU

CRACK

ギーー

HYAA-

AAHH-

CRACK

ギーー

...OLD MAN.

WHY, I'D BE GLAD TO ...

...SHOW YOU MY TECH-NIQUE...

SQUEEZE

GWAHH!

SUCK

AAAAHHH!

SUCK

DID YOU FINALLY MAKE IT TO HEAVEN...

...OLD MAN?

SWIP

FWICK

. . . . . .

TAP

THWUCK

HLEAH

GRGGGLL

GRGGGLL

BLEAH

BLEAH

COUGH

.....

GLANCE

...AND BRING HIM BACK TO KOUGA BEFORE...

I'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE GENNOSUKE-SAMA IS SAFE...

THE IGA ARE DEFINITELY UP TO SOME-THING.

.....

.....

OGEN'S PALACE

FRONT GATE

I PRAY YOU'RE SAFE, OKOI.

OKOI'S SUPPOSED TO BE HERE CHECKING THINGS OUT—

!?

SCHWIP

SCHWIP

FWOOSH

THWICK THWICK

YA-YASHAMARU-DONO?

DO-DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME?

THAT MUST BE... HOTARUBI.

DON'T TELL ME SHE'S ON TO ME ALREADY!!

WHOOSH

SQUEEZE

OUCH!

FWAH

THANK GOD.

YOU'RE OKAY.

OH, I GET IT...SO THEY'RE TOGETHER.

...OF-OF COURSE I'M OKAY. WHY WOULDN'T I BE?

HISS

!?

!

YOU IDIOT!

THWAP

GRIP

IS SHE TESTING ME?

MAYBE I SHOULD JUST KILL HER RIGHT HERE!

I-I'M SORRY.

MAYBE I'M OVER-ANALYZING.

WHAT A WEIRD GIRL.

DRIP

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DOUBTED ME.

THE SWORD IS ONE THING... BUT,

WELL, THAT WAS KIND OF A ROUGH WAY TO GREET ME, DON'T YOU THINK?

YOUR HAIR LOOKS TOTALLY DIFFERENT...

...THAN IT DID BEFORE YOU LEFT FOR SURGE.

I'M SO SORRY, IT'S JUST THAT...

U-UM... YEAH... SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

I BET THAT DRUDGE KEOUGH...

...OR SHOUGEN MASAMUNE DID THAT TO YOU, DIDN'T THEY?

I- I SHOULD LOOK EXACTLY LIKE HIM...

IT- IT DOES?

WHAT?

SO... JIMUSHI'S READING OF THE STARS WAS RIGHT.

WELL, YOU CAN RELAX. DANJOU KOUGA IS PROBABLY DEAD.

.....

...WITH MY OWN...

AND I STABBED SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI TO DEATH.

...TWO HANDS.

HOTARUBI

YOU DID? NICE WORK...

!?

ドドド

ARE YOU IN HERE...

...ROUSAI?

.....

KILL ME...

DID YOU SEE A GRAY-HAIRED OLD MAN?

DID ROUSAI COME BY HERE?

HEY, LITTLE GIRL.

...IS RAPED... BY A KOUGA SWINE...

SHE CAN'T GO ON LIVING.

ONCE AN IGA WOMAN...

WELL...A LITTLE GIRL LIKE YOU...

...IS NO MATCH FOR THAT OLD MAN.

HMM... IT LOOKS LIKE YOU SPILLED YOUR GUTS.

...WHAT?

.....

I THOUGHT THAT WRINKLED OLD MAN'S...

.....

THAT RASCAL ROUSAI...

I GUESS THAT OLD MAN STILL...

...HAD SOME JUICE LEFT IN HIM.

WELL, WELL...

...LUST HAD FADED OUT A LONG TIME AGO.

DIDN'T YOU THINK...

...I COULD GIVE IT TO YOU BETTER THAN THAT OLD MAN?

SO DID I...

HUH?

AH?

AAHH!

FWICK

UMMPH!

THUD

HRRMPH!

SHIVER

SUCK

IT MUST FEEL AS IF...

...1,000 LEECHES ARE SUCKING AWAY AT YOU.

SUCK

HURTS, DOESN'T IT?

I'M GONNA SUCK UP...

...EVERY LAST DROP OF YOUR BLOOD.

SWIP

SWIP

SWIP

AAAHHH!

SUCK

END OF KILL
NUMBER 10

TSSS

ナナナナ

ア

ー

WHAT'S THIS IMPORTANT MATTER YOU WANTED TO DISCUSS?

OBORO

[IGA]

...SO WHAT IS IT, TENZEN?

UNDER THE ORDER OF IEYASU OF SUNPU...

THE TRUCE BETWEEN THE IGA AND THE KOUGA...

THIS IS DIFFICULT NEWS, OBORO-SAMA.

KILL NUMBER 11

[6 VS 7]

...

TSSS

アアアア

SUCK

...

...HAS BEEN DISSOLVED.

!?

OOZE

BYOONG

AH!

FWASH

.....

AAHHH!

OOZE

AAHHH!

AAHHH!

OOZE

AAHHH!

WAAHH!

AAHHH!

SLIDE

SCHWICK

!

TENZEN WANTS YOU TO HAND OVER THE BATTLE SCROLL.

ARE YOU IN HERE, ROUSAI?

WHAT THE-

HYUU

CRACK

YOU LITTLE-

SHI-

SLICE

YES.

TSSS

THEY'VE GOT A KOUGA GIRL LOCKED UP?

WHAT?

YASHAMARU-DONO...DON'T YOU KNOW ABOUT THE BATTLE SCROLL?

?

BATTLE SCROLL?

HER NAME IS OKOI, AND SHE'S LISTED ON THE BATTLE SCROLL.

I'VE GOT SOME QUESTIONS FOR HER.

NO, I JUST WANT TO SEE HER BECAUSE HER NAME IS ON THE BATTLE SCROLL.

.....

UH-UH, OF COURSE I KNOW ABOUT IT.

UM...I'D SURE LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK AT THAT GIRL. SHOW ME WHERE SHE IS, HOTARUBI.

GRIP

SPLICK

UH!

BYONG

SKRINCH

UH...

UMMPH...

#17

SCHWOOP

THAT WAS A NICE TRY, LITTLE GIRL... BUT...

IT'S ALL OVER NOW!

.....

SUCK

WAAHHH!

FWIP

GOT TO–

GOT TO TOUCH MORE OF HIS SKIN!

SUCK

YOU-YOU LITTLE–!

DRIP

SHIVER

UH!?

DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ME, LITTLE GIRL!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL?

DRIP

STICK

STICK

STICK

STICK

UH...

UH!

AH!

STING

STING

STING

DRIP

DRIP

DRIP

I'M AFRAID I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE.

THEY TOLD ME NOT TO KILL YOU, BUT...

.....

...YOUR NAME IS ON THE BATTLE SCROLL.

UH... UH...

AFTER ALL...

FLUP

WE WERE GONNA HAVE TO KILL YOU ANYWAY... SOONER OR LATER.

SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
TSSS
SLIDE
SPLASH
SPLASH

NE-NENKI-DONO...

AH, YASHAMARU!

WHEN DID YOU GET BACK?

HEY, YASHAMARU.

?

SWIP

.....

UH...

I JUST GOT BACK.

JUST...

...NOW.

THUD

WHAT'S WRONG, YASHAMARU?

HOTARUBI, DID YOU SICK YOUR SNAKE ON YASHAMARU?

HOW CRUEL...

.....

HOTARUBI'S SNAKE...

...BIT ME. THE POISON MUST BE MAKING ME DIZZY...BUT I'M OKAY.

DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT.

WHA-WHAT, HOTARUBI? I'M JUST KIDDING.

.....

DID YOU FIND A NEW GIRL-FRIEND OR SOMETHING, YASHAMARU?

OKOI...

OKOI...

SQUEEZE

キュッ

SQUEEZE

キュッ

.....

SHIVER

ゾクッ

I'M SORRY...
OKOI...

I'M...
TOO
LATE...

SQUEEZE

キュッ

SQUEEZE

キュッ

SA...E..MO...N...

I KILLED...

...THE OLD MAN...ALL BY MYSELF.

SA...E...MO...N...

SA...E...MO...N...

SQUEEZE

YOU DID?... GOOD JOB...

GOOD WORK

...OKOI...

OOOOOO

OO

...STRANGE SCROLL...

...HIDDEN BETWEEN...

...THE SACKS OF SALT...

SQUEEZE

TH-

THERE'S A...

SA...

THERE IS?

OKAY... I'LL GET IT.

...E...MO...

N... SA... E...

MO... N...

SA...

WHAT HAPPENED AT SUNPU?

WHAT HAPPENED TO OGEN-SAMA?

AH!

OH YEAH, YASHAMARU...

I CAN'T...

...TALK ABOUT THAT UNTIL I'VE SEEN OBORO-SAMA.

GRIN

ニヤ

...TENZEN-DONO.

IT SEEMS THAT OBORO-SAMA IS STILL IN HER SECRET MEETING WITH...

YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO HER YET?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

...STARTED A LONG TIME AGO...

THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE IGA AND THE KOUGA...

...BUT OBORO-SAMA IS BLINDED BY HER LOVE FOR GENNOSUKE.

TENZEN'S PROBABLY HAVING A HELL OF A TIME TRYING TO TALK SOME SENSE INTO OBORO-SAMA.

YEAH.

YOU MEAN...

... WE HAVEN'T KILLED GENNOSUKE YET?

EXACTLY!

TENZEN IS TOO AFRAID OF GENNOSUKE.

EVEN IF GENNOSUKE'S "ENCHANTED VISION" TECHNIQUE IS AS POWERFUL AS TENZEN SEEMS TO BELIEVE...

HMMPH!

WE'VE ALREADY CROSSED KAZAMACHI, JIMUSHI AND UDONO OFF THE LIST! AND I JUST TOOK CARE OF OKOI!

ARE YOU OKAY?

YEAH, I'M FINE.

I STILL DON'T THINK WE HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

SWIP

SWIP

WHAT THE HELL IS TENZEN SO AFRAID OF!

SLITHER

NEN... KI...

NENKI...

SLITHER

SLITHER

...ROUSAI AND THE SCROLL.

AH! THAT'S RIGHT, I'VE GOT TO FIND...

SWICH

AH...
AH....

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, JINGOROU?

WA- WATER... PLEASE...

THERE!

HAVE ALL THE WATER YOU WANT!

AH_

OH NO! ROUSAI- DONO!

WHAT IS IT, HOTARUBI?

WHA- WHAT THE HELL?

!?

WAIT, OBORO-SAMA!

.....

WAIT!

YOU'VE GOT TO UNDER-STAND, OBORO-SAMA!

THERE'S NO WAY I'LL LET YOU...

...LOCK A MANJIDANI WOMAN IN OUR SALT SHED!

NO, I WON'T ALLOW IT!

WHA- WHAT THE-?

WHAT'S DONE IS DONE! WE CAN'T STOP NOW!

AH!

UH...

CLOP

SHIVER

SHIVER

SHIVER

UMMPH!

!?

YASHAMARU!?

WHAT'S WITH HIM?

YA-YASHAMARU-DONO?

UH...

KYAAA!

AHHHH!

SHIT!

THOD

END OF KILL NUMBER 11

KILL NUMBER 12

[5 VS 7]

YOU BASTARD!

RIP

SCOOP

スパッ

.....

WHOOSH

YOU, KOUGA RAT!

SCHWIP

!

AAHH! SA-SALT!

!?

SMACK

KYAAA!

FLIP

THWAP

OUCH, OUCH!

TWIRL

KYA!

SCHWIP

SCHWIP

!

AH!?

SHI-

FWASH

. . . . . .

SLICE

KYA!

FWAP

SCHWID

OBORO-SAMA!

AH!

HYUU

SHIT!

UH...

KOSHIROU!

THE SCROLL!

SLIDE

SLIDE

SPLOOSH

AH!

SLIDE

!

THE SCROLL!

SPLASH

SPLASH

AH!

I'VE GOT IT!

OKAY!

GLURBLE

JINGOROU-DONO, GET THE SCROLL!

HUH?

OKAY!

AH!

SWIPE

カッ

UWAAA!

THUNK

WHAT THE-?

GYAA!

WHACK

SHI-

HA HAAA!

...

WHOA...

GYOUBU... KASUMI.

.....

THE ONE WHO TURNED INTO YASHAMARU-DONO?

WHERE'S THE OTHER KOUGA NINJA?

UGHHH..

.....

PLOINK

GRIN

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

AFTER HIM!

DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!

HEY!

WHOOSH

HEY!

STOP!

!

.....

.....

STAY FOCUSED...

THEY'RE PROBABLY HEADING FOR GENNOSUKE'S ROOM.

KOSHIROU... GATHER SOME MEN.

.....

OUR LIVES MAY BE AT STAKE.

WHOOSH

!

FWOOSH

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

THE TEN COMBATANTS OF THE IGA CLAN

THE TEN COMBATANTS OF THE KOUGA CLAN

GEN
OBORO
YASHAMARU
ROUSAI AZUKI
JINGOROU ANAYO
KOSHIROU CHIKUMA
NENKI MINO
HOTARUBI
TENZEN YAKUSHIJI
AKEGINU

DANJOU KOUGA
GENNOSUKE KOUGA
[illegible]
CYOUSUKE KAKUDAI
[illegible]
SAIMON KUSAKA
MYOUMA MAGESA
KAGIKU
OKO

TSSSS

IGA NO YAKU
OKUGAWA

TSSSSS

THE TEN COMBATANTS OF THE KOUGA CLAN

TSSS

GRR

.....

.....

.....

...GYOUBU...

SAEMON...

STEP

LET'S GO BACK...

...TO MANJI-DANI.

FWARH

GRR

GRR

GRR

TENZEN'S COWARDICE SOMEHOW INFECTED ME.

SHIT!

DAMN!

WA- WAIT, NENKI!

DON'T RUSH THIS!

HYAA! ATTACK!

WHOOSH

ARE YOU CRAZY? NOW WHAT?

FWOOSH

FWOOSH

BZZT

WOBBLE

THUD

SKRACK

SPLAT

SPLAT

TSSSS

UH...

UHH...

SHIVER

LANNGGG...

SHUDDER

SHUDDER

AHHHH!

UWAAAAHH!

SLICE

BZZT

BZZT

FLIP

THUD

SPLAT

TSSSS

THA-THAT MUST BE GENNOSUKE-KOUGA'S...

...ENCHANTED VISION...

.....

SHUFFLE

SHUFFLE

SHUFFLE

WE CAN'T—

...LET THEM GET AWAY.

BUT...

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

GENNOSUKE!

STOP!

IN THE ENTIRE IGA CLAN...

THERE'S ONLY ONE NINJA WHO COULD STAND AGAINST...

...GENNOSUKE...

STEP

END OF KILL NUMBER 12

.....

OBORO-SAMA!

.....

SHIVER

HMMPH...
TENZEN'S COCKY LITTLE SIDEKICK.

KILL NUMBER 13
[5 VS 7 (PART 2)]

YOU'VE GOT TO GET BETWEEN KOSHIROU AND GENNOSUKE...

OBORO SAMA! PLEASE SAVE US

WHA—?

WHAT?

IF YOU TRULY ARE THE NEXT LEADER OF TSUBAGAKURE...

YOU'VE GOT TO DO IT!

...STARE INTO GENNOSUKE'S EYES...

...WITH YOUR OWN ENCHANTED VISION!

...THEN YOU KNOW THAT OUR CLAN'S FUTURE HINGES ON THE OUT-COME OF THIS BATTLE.

YOU'VE GOT TO....

GENNOSUKE'S...

...ENCHANTED VISION....

.....

ONCE THEY'RE UNDER HIS SPELL, THEY'RE FORCED TO TAKE THEIR OWN LIVES.

...ONLY AFFECTS THOSE WHO DESIRE TO HARM HIM.

KOSHIROU CHIKUMA IS THE ONLY OTHER NINJA...

OF THE ENTIRE IGA CLAN...

.....

...WITH EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE OF BEATING HIM.

SCHWIP

SCHWIP

FWICK

SCHWIP

SCHWIP

HMMPH...

HE MAY BE ABLE TO BLOCK KOSHIROU'S SICKLE-STYLE SHURIKEN, BUT...

THWIC

HYUUU

HYUUU

HYUUU

!

WHOOSH

...STOP THE RAZOR SHARP WIND OF KOSHIROU'S...

...TORNADO TECHNIQUE.

THERE'S NO WAY HE'LL BE ABLE TO....

GRIN

STOP IT, KOSHIROU!

STOP!

ONLY YOUR EYES CAN BREAK THE SPELL OF GENNOSUKE'S ENCHANTED VISION!

LOOK INTO GENNOSUKE'S EYES, OBORO-SAMA!

OBORO-SAMA!

STEP

GE-GET OUT OF THE WAY, OBORO-SAMA!

FWOOSH

HYUUU HYUUU HYUUU

STEP

STOP! KOSHIROU!

WHOOSH

!

SWIP

!

GOT TO...

NO! OBORO-SAMA'S EYES!

TURN AWAY...GOT TO TURN AWAY!

CAN'T—

TURN AWAY...

TURN AWAY...

GOT TO... TURN AWAY!

...AWAY...

CRACK

...TURN...

HYUU...

GWAH!

SPLAT

SHIVER

SHIVER

SHIVER

UNNNG!

AH...

AHH.

ドサッ

THUD

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE...

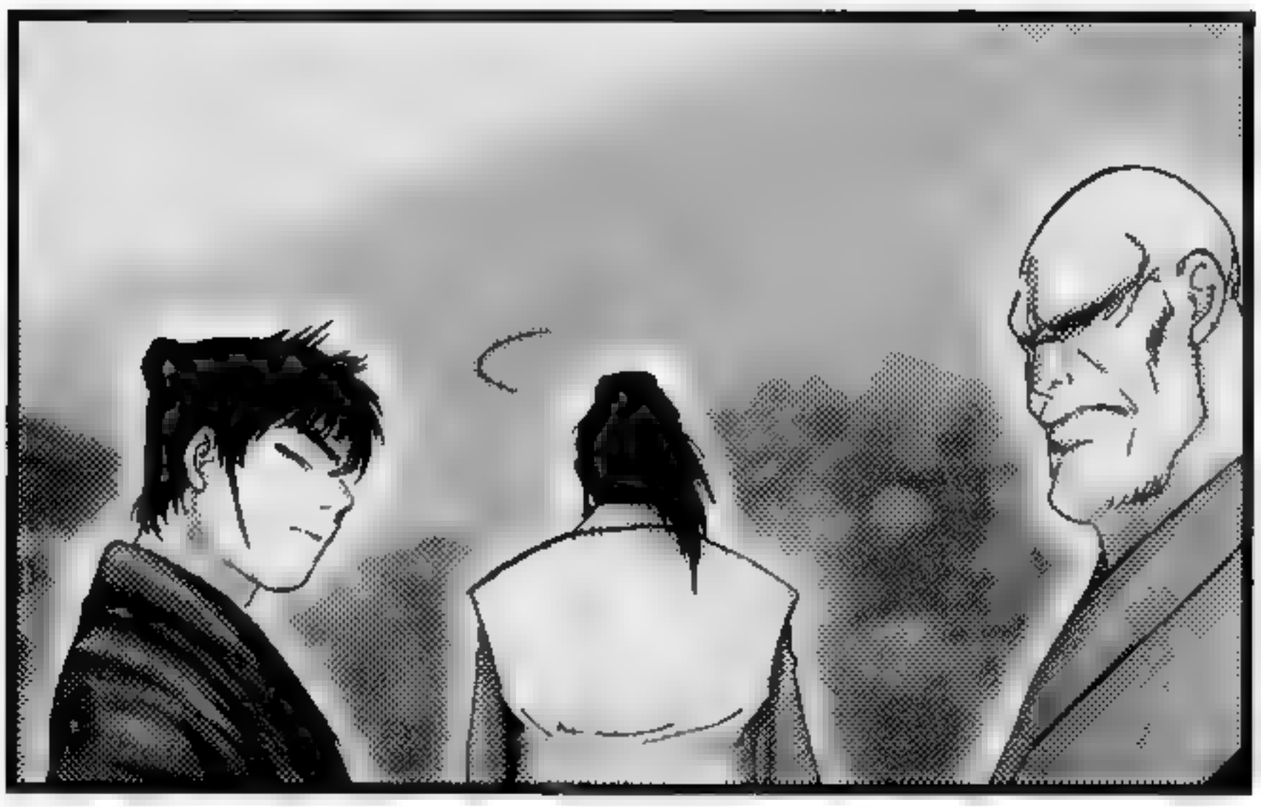
WHA—

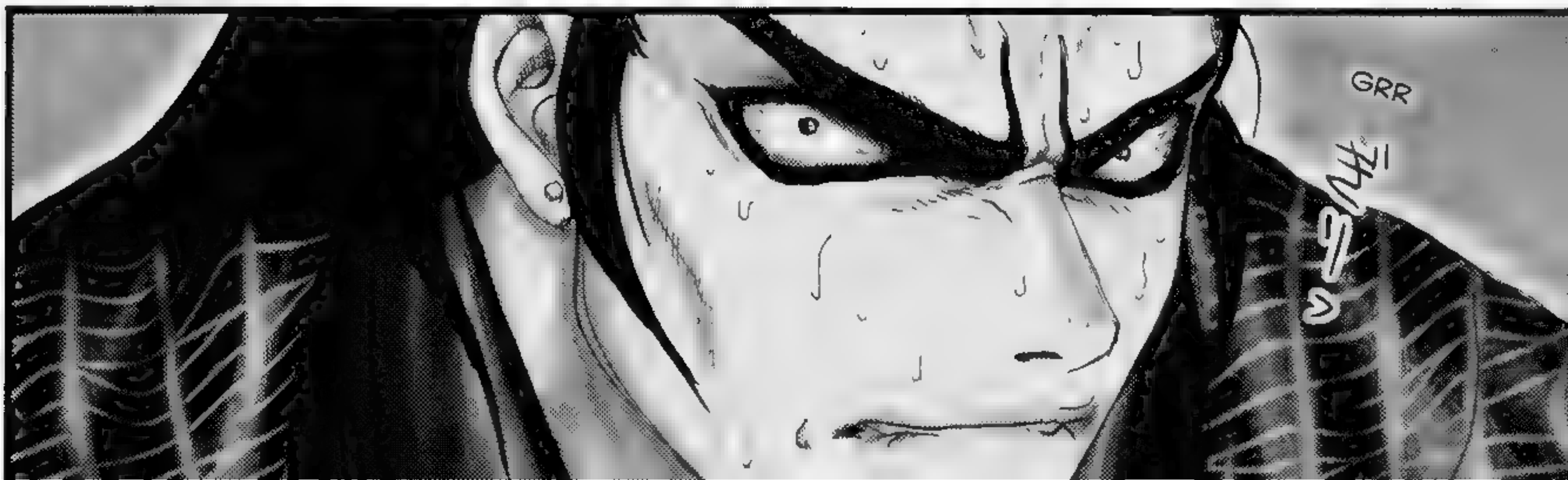
.....

KOSHIROU...

STEP

BLINK




GRR

GENNOSUKE-SAMA!

. . . . . .

AH...

...IS GONE.
HE'S GONE...
GENNOSUKE-SAMA...

AH...

NO...

NO...

NOOO...

GRR

...

ドアを…

SO...

HOW ARE KOSHIROU'S WOUNDS?

OKAY... YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK AFTER KOSHIROU FOR A WHILE, AKEGINU.

I WILL.

WELL...

SWIP

HE BARELY ESCAPED DEATH... HE CAN NO LONGER SEE.

...IS INEXCUSABLE!

WELL... OBORO-SAMA...

WHAT YOU'VE DONE...

YOUR ACTIONS WERE NOTHING LESS THAN TRAITOROUS!

HMMPH, IF ONLY YOU WEREN'T A BLOOD RELATIVE OF OGEN-SAMA'S—

...TENZEN.

...PLEASE FORGIVE ME...

OGEN-SAMA AND YASHAMARU HAVE MOST LIKELY...

KOSHIROU IS WOUNDED, AND...

ROUSAI IS DEAD...

OUT OF OUR TEN NINJA...

GRR

...BEEN KILLED AS WELL.

AND THEY EVEN STOLE THE BATTLE SCROLL.

WE HAVE TO GET IT BACK, EVEN IF IT MEANS OUR LIVES!

HMMPH!

OUR CLAN HAS BEEN WAITING FOR THIS DAY!

THOSE KOUGA BASTARDS!

WE'LL SEND ALL OF THEM TO BURN IN THE FIERY PITS OF HELL!

THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING!

WE MUST BE SURE THAT OBORO-SAMA IS WITH US!

BUT... BEFORE WE CAN BEGIN THIS BLOODY BATTLE...

...THAT GENNOSUKE KOUGA WILL DIE BY YOUR HAND?

SO... OBORO-SAMA! CAN YOU SWEAR TO US...

DRIP

DRIP

DRIP

SWIP

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

O-OBORO-SAMA...

...JUST... GIVE ME SOME TIME.

SHIT!

HEY... TENZEN.

STEP

PLEASE LET US HEAR YOUR DECISION, OBORO-SAMA.

.....

...A WHILE BACK...

OGEN-SAMA SPOKE TO ME...

WHA- WHAT'S IN THAT JAR?

?

LISTEN, OBORO...

LOOK AT YOU. YOU HAVEN'T PERFECTED A SINGLE NINJA TECHNIQUE.

YOU MAY BE THE FUTURE LEADER OF THE IGA-TSUBAGAKURE CLAN, BUT...

OGEN

[IGA]

.....

...WITH THOSE POWERFUL EYES...

BUT...

YOU ...

...WERE BORN....

.....!

THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH NINJA TECHNIQUE...

YOU DIDN'T LEARN THAT FROM ME.

OBORO, I FEAR...

...THOSE EYES OF YOURS.

...ONE DAY LEAD OUR TSUBAGAKURE CLAN TO DISASTER.

I FEAR THAT YOUR EYES WILL DESTROY THE TECHNIQUES OF OUR TSUBAGAKURE NINJA, AND...

IF THAT DAY EVER COMES, YOUR EYES WILL BE THE SOURCE OF DESTRUCTION.

IF THAT DAY EVER COMES, YOUR EYES WILL BE THE SOURCE OF DESTRUCTION.

...SEVEN DAYS OF DARKNESS POTION UPON YOUR EYELIDS.

YOU MUST SPLASH THIS...

AND THEN... WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

YOU CAN'T MEAN—

AND—

...MY EYES WILL BE SEALED SHUT...

...FOR SEVEN DAYS AND SEVEN NIGHTS.

IF...

I POUR THE SEVEN DAYS OF DARKNESS POTION UPON MY EYELIDS...

AH!

FOR-FORGIVE ME, OBORO-SAMA!

GRRIP

WHA—

MY-MY GOD...

.....

YANK

TO BE CONTINUED
IN BOOK 3

about the authors

FŪTARO YAMADA

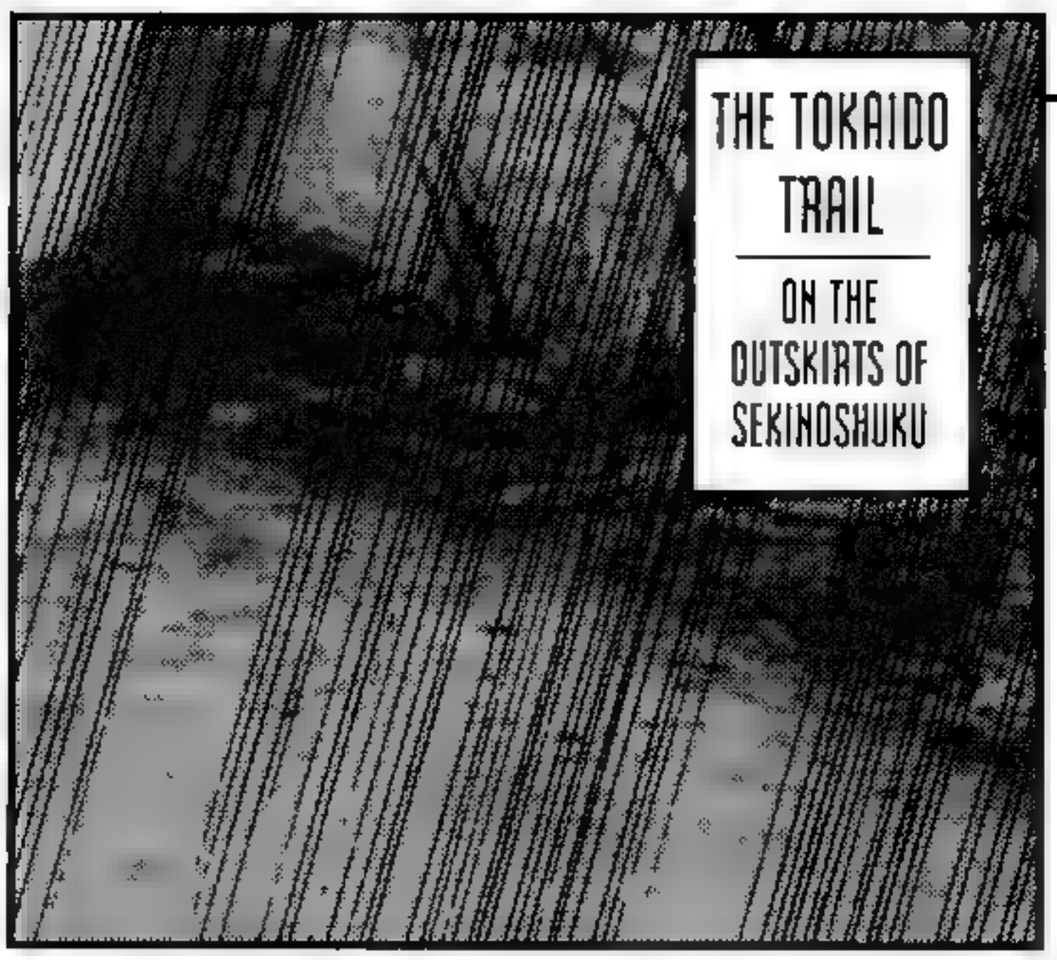
Born in 1922 in Hyogo Prefecture, Fūtaro Yamada made his debut as a novelist while still a student at Tokyo Medical University. Yamada was known for his mystery novels such as *Ganchuu No Akuma*. Later, his Ninja Scrolls series became wildly popular. He penned a wide body of literature, including the period piece *Makaitensei*, as well as several collections of essays such as *Ato Senkai No Banmeshi* and *Ningen Rinjyuu Zukan*. He passed away on July 28, 2001.

MASAKI SEGAWA

Masaki Segawa made his debut in 1997 with the series Senma Monogatari, which ran in the weekly comic *Morning*. In 1998, he began his long-running *Uppers* magazine series Onigiri Jyuuzou, which ended in the year 2000. This is his second long-running series, and his first adaptation. He loves cats and watermelon.
He currently resides in Funabashi.

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.



THE TOKAIDO TRAIL, PAGE 63

The Tokaido Trail was a famous 300-mile coastal road linking Kyoto and Tokyo during the Tokugawa Era. The road was used by the shogun to maintain control over the country, but it soon became a major commercial route. The fifty-three stations along the Tokaido route were depicted in wood block prints by the famous Edo Era artist Hiroshige. Today several train lines make the journey from Kyoto to Tokyo along parts of the Tokaido Trail.

ANISAMA, PAGE 148

Okoi is actually calling her brother "anisama," or "older brother." In Japanese, siblings are commonly referred to as "older brother" or older sister." We chose to translate this using Saemon's name, since it sounds unnatural in English to refer to someone as "older brother." "Anisama" is actually a very formal, and somewhat antiquated, term. "Oniisama" is the modern equivalent, and "oniisan" and "oniichan" are less formal variations.

***SHURIKEN*, PAGE 194**

Shuriken are the throwing stars used by ninja. Goshiro's shuriken is shaped not like a star but like a sickle, or scythe.

Love and Death

The bloody battle to rule Japan has begun: The Iga and the Kouga clans are locked in a fight to the death. Driven by a centuries-old hatred, the clans will do anything to annihilate each other. The Kouga clan is engaging in a little espionage and has planted a shapeshifter, disguised as an Iga ninja, in the Iga palace. Meanwhile, the Iga clan turns to its last, best hope: their new leader, Oboro, who alone can defeat the Kouga's formidable leader, Gennosuke. But is Oboro willing to kill the man she loves?
As the war grows more desperate, true love may be the next casualty. . . .

Includes in-depth translation notes and a preview of the next volume!

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